

EDOCKET, Regulations.gov, and the eRulemaking Initiative

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EPA's EDOCKET is an online public docket and comment system designed to greatly expand access to EPA's major headquarter and regional dockets and facilitate the online submission of public comments. EDOCKET provides an unprecedented level of online access to EPA's programs and rulemaking processes. It is also a critical step in meeting the goals of the President's Management Agenda for E-Government, as it simplifies and unifies EPA's rulemaking and comment processes. EDOCKET allows the public to search available dockets online, view their contents, and print materials. Members of the public may submit comments online as well as review comments submitted by others. Visit the website at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket>.

The eRulemaking Initiative is one of the 24 E-Government Initiatives on the President's Management Agenda (PMA) aimed at integrating agency operations and technology investments. The eRulemaking initiative will allow citizens easy access and participation in high quality, efficient and open rulemaking process across the federal government. The first milestone of the initiative is the *www.Regulations.gov* website, which enables the public to search, view, and comment on hundreds of proposed Federal regulations from approximately 160 Federal agencies through a single Web site.

The second component of the eRulemaking Initiative will build upon Regulations.gov, and create a federal-wide docket management system that will vastly improve the public's ability to participate in the federal rulemaking process by giving the public access to all rulemakings, supporting regulatory documents, and comments submitted by others through one website. EPA's current electronic docket management system (EDOCKET) is being used as the model for the federal-wide docket system.